

Prescription Assistance Resource Guide of Frederick County

Section I – Immediate Assistance: *to be used if you have a prescription that you need help with now*

Section II – Short Term Assistance: *assistance available in 14-45 days*

Section III – Long Term Assistance: *assistance available in greater than 45 days*

Section IV – Discount Programs

Section V – Copayment Assistance

Section VI – General Information

Section VII – Consumer Self-Help and Advocacy

Section VIII – Tax Credit

How to use this guide:

- Each section is headed by a boxed title.
- Major program names with-in each section are in larger, bold, underlined type.
- There may be several minor programs with-in each major program.
- Many programs have specific hours, availability, or qualifications too detailed to mention here.

SECTION I - IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs

27 Degrange St., Frederick, MD 21701
301-631-2670

Salvation Army

223 W. 5th St., Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-2311

Seton Center

16840 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD 21727
301-447-3121

St. Vincent De Paul of St. John's Catholic Church

112 East 2nd St., Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-4676

SECTION II - SHORT-TERM ASSISTANCE

Frederick Community Action Agency

100 S. Market St.
Frederick, MD 21701
301-600-1506

www.cityoffrederick.com/fcaa

Programs offered by the agency to assist with prescriptions include:
Primary Adult Care (PAC) Outreach Project
Medbank Program

Glade Valley Community Services

Churches in the Walkersville area
P.O. Box 655
Walkersville, MD 21793
301-845-4229

geraldhanberry@gladechurch.org

Health care and prescription drug support to Walkersville area residents

Mission of Mercy

22 South Market Street, Suite 6 D
Frederick Maryland
301-682-5683

www.amissionofmercy.org

Provides free basic health care and medications prescribed by MOM clinicians at various Frederick County sites.
Call for times and locations.

Mt. Airy.Net

403 S. Main St.
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
301-829-0472

www.stjamesmtairy.org

Provides emergency prescription assistance to qualifying Mt. Airy area residents.

SECTION III - LONG-TERM ASSISTANCE

Chronic Disease Fund

10880 John W. Elliot Drive Suite 400
Frisco, TX 75034
Toll Free: 877-968-7233

www.cdfund.org

The Chronic Disease Fund provides financial assistance to patients diagnosed with a chronic or life-altering disease.

More than 35 FDA approved specialty medications and specialty therapeutics are included.

Once patient approved for program, the medication is dispensed through selected pharmacies.

Diseases covered:

Ankylosing Spondylitis
Asthma
Breast Cancer
Colorectal Cancer
Growth Hormone Deficiency
Multiple Myeloma
Multiple Sclerosis
Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS)
Non-small Cell Lung Cancer
Psoriasis
Psoriatic Arthritis
Rheumatoid Arthritis

Family Investment Program

Frederick County Department of Social Services
100 E. All Saints
Frederick, MD 21701
301-694-4555

<http://www.dhr.state.md.us/fia/>

Time limited assistance to aged and/or disabled adults while pursuing Federal Medicaid benefits.

The program may pay for medical benefits and prescription assistance.

Qualified applicants may receive assistance through various programs including:

Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA)
Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP)
Medical Assistance (Medicaid)
Medical Assistance Long Term Care Program

Free Drug Programs:

Patients who do not have insurance

Must meet more restrictive financial guidelines to receive free medication

Limited in scope, strive to provide solutions for patients in need

If unable to provide a free drug program for you disease

Will attempt to refer you to another organization that may be able to help

Frederick County Department of Aging

1440 Taney Avenue
Frederick, MD 21702
301-600-1605

www.mdoa.state.md.us/

Offers assistance in applying for a Medicare Part D plan and is the designated area provider for:
Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan Assistance
Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (**SHIP**)

Also available:

Medicaid information and applications

Patient Access Network Foundation

P.O. Box 221858
Charlotte, NC 28222-1858
Toll Free: 866-316-7263

www.patientaccessnetwork.org

An organization dedicated to supporting the needs of patients that cannot access medical treatments they need due to out-of-pocket health care costs.
Program counselors will personally work with patients to help them through the application process.
Funding is available for over 20 diseases; web site lists all available medications and diseases.

Eligible applicants must:

Be U.S. residents

Must meet certain financial, medical and insurance criteria guidelines

Have all applications documented and verified by their physicians as defined by each disease fund

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

888-477-2669

www.pparx.org

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is a national service that was created to make it easier for patients to find and have access to pharmaceutical companies' patient assistance programs. An online service, applications are available from 48 different companies.

Social Security Administration

Suite 204
10 N. Jefferson St.
Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 600-6765
1-800-772-1213
(800) 325-0778 TTY

www.ssa.gov

Medicare Part D

<http://www.medicare.gov/>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>

Medicare Part D is a prescription insurance program for people age 65 and old

People under age 65 with certain disabilities

People of all ages with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

Everyone with Medicare can get this coverage that may help lower prescription drug costs and help protect against higher costs in the future.

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage is insurance.

Private companies provide the coverage.

Beneficiaries choose the drug plan and pay a monthly premium.

If a beneficiary decides not to enroll in a drug plan when they are first eligible, they may pay a penalty if they choose to join later.

Persons who qualify for Medicare may also qualify for "extra help" from the Social Security Administration in paying for their Medicare Part D insurance premiums and their medication co-pays.

To enroll in Medicare

A person can call or visit the local Social Security office

Social Security Administration

10 N. Jefferson St

Frederick, MD 21701

301-682-6765

A person can call Social Security at toll free at 1-800-772-1213

A person can apply online (using the Internet) if they meet certain rules. To apply online, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

They must answer a series of questions that will tell them if they qualify to apply online.

Enrolling in Medicare in Part D

A person must be enrolled in Medicare Part A or B to become enrolled

Medicare Part D. If the person is close to age 65 and not getting Social Security benefits, they can apply for Medicare. They should apply three months before the month they turn 65. This is the beginning of the 7 month Initial Enrollment Period. If they wait until they are 65, or in the last 3 months of the Initial Enrollment Period, their Medicare coverage start date will be delayed.

To receive assistance or to select a Medicare Part D Program a person can contact:

SHIP- State Health Insurance Assistance Program

The Frederick County Department of Aging

1440 Taney Ave.

Frederick, MD 21702

301-694-1605

Kidney Drug Coverage

<http://www.kidneydrugcoverage.org>

Provides guidance in choosing the best Medicare Part D Plan for the End Stage renal Disease patient. It is regularly updated to reflect changes in each plan.

The Maryland AIDS Drug Assistance Program - MADAP

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

500 N. Calvert Street

Baltimore, MD 21202

Tel: (410) 767-2549

Public Contact Number: (800) 205-6308

<http://dhmh.state.md.us/AIDS/Treatment/assistProgramsPLWHA.htm>

The program provides assistance with HIV/AIDS medication.

MADAP is a statewide program

Funded primarily through the Ryan White CARE Act

Assist HIV infected low to moderate-income Maryland residents receive assistance purchasing medications needed to treat HIV and AIDS.

Maryland Pharmacy Program

Frederick County Department of Social Services

100 E. All Saints

Frederick, MD 21701

301-600-4555

<http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/mpap/>

The Maryland Pharmacy Program is part of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Provides access to health care services for many of the State's low-income residents

Individuals may be eligible for services depending upon income and other factors through the:
Maryland Medicaid Program
Maryland Children's Health Program
Maryland Pharmacy Program.

The Maryland Pharmacy Program provides services for the following programs:

The Maryland Medicaid Program (Medical Assistance)

Available to low-income persons in certain categories

Federal Medicaid laws require that every state cover certain groups.

People who receive money through Supplemental Security (SSI) or Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) automatically receive Medicaid.

Persons may qualify for Medicaid for high medical expense if they have low income, assets and are aged, blind, or disabled for hospital and nursing home care expense.

Coverage includes both healthcare and prescription assistance

The following coverage is also allowed for certain optional categories.

Families and Children (FAC)

Children Receiving Foster Care of Subsidized Adoption Services

Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) Persons

Institutionalized Persons -Long Term Care

Long Term Care Home and Community-Service Waivers

Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

Medically Needy

Women's Breast and Cervical Cancer Health Program (WBCCHP)

Coverage for Medicare Premiums, Co-Payments, and/or Deductibles Only

QMB -Qualified Medicare Beneficiary

SLMB I or II - Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary Group I and II

QDWI – Qualified Disabled Working Individuals

The Health Choice Program

Maryland's Medicaid managed care program.

It is a mandatory program for most of the Medical Assistance population.

A recipient in Health Choice will receive health care services through a managed care organization (MCO).

Approximately 80 percent of the Medicaid population participates in Health Choice.

Coverage includes health care and prescription benefits.

The Maryland Primary Adult Care Program

For people aged 19 and over, who are not eligible for Medicare.

Must have incomes (such as earnings and social security), at or below \$946 monthly for one person (\$1,100 monthly for a couple).

Assets (such as bank accounts, etc.) must be below \$4,000 for one person (\$6,000 for a couple).

Coverage includes health care and prescription benefits.

The Family Planning Program

Provides medical services related to family planning for women who lost their Medicaid coverage after they were covered for a pregnancy under the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP).

Covered services include medical office visits, physical examinations, contraceptives, certain laboratory services, family planning supplies, reproductive education, counseling and referral, and tubal ligation.

Coverage for family planning services may continue for up to five years.

Coverage includes limited health care and limited prescription benefits.

Medicare Part D Assistance Costs

Provided by the state of Maryland allows for complete pharmacy services to individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid.

May include certain drugs that are excluded from Medicare Part D.

Medicaid provides most of those excluded drugs to dual eligible recipients.

This is a prescription benefit program that enables Medicaid beneficiaries' access to Medicare Part D medications.

Maryland Children's Health Program

Provides medical coverage including prescriptions for children whose family income is no more than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Pregnant women and their newborns qualify if their family income does not exceed 250% of the FPL.

MCHP eligibles receive the full range of Medicaid services and are enrolled in the Maryland Managed Health Care Program, Health Choice.

Coverage includes health care and prescription benefits.

Maryland Children's Health Program Premium

For uninsured children younger than 19 whose family income exceeds 200 % but no more than 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.

A parent or guardian must pay a monthly family premium.

The contribution is per family, not per child.

Coverage includes health care and prescription benefits.

Kidney Disease Program of Maryland

Provides approved services that are required as a direct result of end-stage renal disease.

A sliding scale fee is calculated for participation in the program.

Participation in the program includes dialysis, renal transplant, hospital care, physician and laboratory fees and prescription assistance.

Medbank Program - Medbank of Maryland

Frederick Community Action Agency

100 S. Market St.

Frederick, MD 21701

301-600-1506

www.cityoffrederick.com/fcaa

<http://www.medbankmd.org/>

MEDBANK is a non-profit organization dedicated to accessing free prescription drugs for low-income, chronically ill Marylanders.

Persons who qualify are enrolled into the patient assistance programs operated by the world's largest pharmaceutical manufacturers.

The Medbank Program assists the client by contacting practitioners and completing the paperwork required for them to receive a free 3-month supply of medication from the pharmaceutical companies' patient assistance programs.

The local provider of Medbank services in Frederick County is the Frederick Community Action Agency.

There is no fee for this service.

In November 2005 the American Cancer Society and Medbank of Maryland formed a partnership to provide free access to medications and services available through the American Cancer Society and Medbank of Maryland. Endorsed by MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society.

***see Discount Programs to learn about the national MEBANKUS Discount Program**

Veterans Health Care Administration

<http://www1.va.gov/health/>

Baltimore VA Medical Center

10 North Greene Street
Baltimore MD 21201
410-605-7000
800-463-6295

Martinsburg VA Medical Center

510 Butler Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304-263-0811
800-817-3807

Baltimore Regional Office-administrative offices

31 Hopkins Plaza Federal Building
Baltimore, MD 21201
800-827-1000

The Baltimore Regional Office serves 495,000 veterans living in the State of Maryland.

The regional offices jurisdiction encodes all of the State's counties.

Eligibility for most veterans' health care benefits is based solely on active military services in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard (or Merchant Marines during WWII)

Discharged under other than dishonorable conditions

Reserves and National Guard members who are called to active duty by a Federal Executive order may also be eligible for health care benefits.

VA provides a medical benefits package, a standard enhanced health plan with prescription benefits to all enrolled veterans.

This plan emphasizes preventative and primary care.

A priority system ensures that veterans with service related disabilities and those below the low-income threshold could be enrolled in the VA's health care system.

The standard enhanced health plan that provides preventative, medical and prescription benefits to enrolled veterans, clinical programs & initiatives that may include healthcare and prescription benefits to qualified veterans include:

Agent Orange Health Effects and Vietnam Veterans

Blind Rehabilitation Services

Cancer Program

Cardiac Surgery Consultants

Center for Women Veterans

Cold Injury

Diabetes Program

Gulf War Veterans' Health

Health Care Programs for Elderly Veterans

HIV/AIDS Program

Kidney Disease Program

National Audiology & Speech Pathology Service

National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

National Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers

Recreational Therapy Science

War Related Illness and Injury Study Center

Veterans Prescription Service

Health Benefits Service Center

877-222-8387

<http://www.va.gov/elig>

Veterans Prescription Service provides prescription drugs and medical supplies to qualified veterans, dependents and survivors.

Prescriptions must be from a VA provider or a VA authorized provider in areas where there are no VA pharmacies. Payment may be reimbursed.

SECTION IV - DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

AARP – American Association of Retired Persons

800-456-2277

www.aarp-pharmacy.com

National discount program provides services for persons age 50 and over.

Members receive prescription savings card and local pharmacy preferred pricing through membership.

\$19.95 for one-year savings of 20 – 53%

Free price quote on medications, call 800-289-8849 ext 0

MEDBANKUS Discount Card

www.medbankus.org

301-600-1506 Frederick Medbank Office

877-435-7755 Member Services

The Medbank discount drug plan provides discount on **all** FDA-approved prescription drugs. There are no limited drug lists. On the average you will save 15% or more off the cash price for Brand Drugs and 40% or more off generic drugs. There are no limits on use of the card and one card can be used by several people. The card can be used at over 53,000 pharmacies across the United States. The card is available from the Medbank office at Frederick Community Action Agency and you can also go online and print one for use.

Merck

1-800-506-3725

www.merckuninsured.com

In addition to providing the type of assistance offered by many pharmaceutical companies, Merck offers the following programs:

Instant Savings Certificate. Patients can present an innovative Instant Savings Certificate to their pharmacist along with a valid prescription and immediately save at least 10 percent on many Merck prescriptions.

Patients can print out Instant Savings Certificates at www.merckuninsured.com.

Merck Prescription Discount Program

To obtain even greater savings of 15 to 40 percent, patients can enroll in this program

Enrollment is free and easy; there is no annual membership or hidden fees.

Patients can enroll by: Calling 1-800-50 MERCK (1-800-506-3725) between 8 am and 8 pm Eastern Time Monday through Friday

Spanish-speaking operators are also available

They may also enroll by visiting www.merckuninsured.com

When patients enroll over the phone or web; they will receive an active membership ID that they can use right away at their local pharmacy to receive greater discounts without having to wait for their permanent membership card.

They will receive their permanent Merck discount card in the mail within two weeks. Once enrolled, they can present their card with their prescription at most U.S. pharmacies.

Pfizer

866-766-3700

www.PfizerHelpfulAnswers.com

In addition to providing the type of assistance offered by many pharmaceutical

companies, Pfizer offers the following program:

The Pfizer Pfriends™ program is a discount program that provides savings for uninsured patients, regardless of their age or income.

Rx Outreach

Express Scripts Specialty Distribution Services Inc.

PO Box 66536

Saint Louis MO 63166-6536

1-800-769-3880

www.rxoutreach.com

A Patient Assistance Program that provides affordable medicines for those who qualify financially. A ninety-day supply of a medication offered by RxOutreach may be purchased for \$20-30.

www.rxvouchers.com

The website offers free and discounted drug offers and vouchers from pharmaceutical companies. Consumers can download and print the vouchers.

The Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program

Maryland - SPDAP

PO Box 33387

Indianapolis, IN 46203-0387

1-800-551-5995

TTY/TDD - 1-800-877-5156

<http://www.marylandspdap.com>

The Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program (SPDAP) is a subsidy program established by the Maryland Health Insurance Plan (MHIP) through the Medicare Modernization Act and the Health Insurance Safety Net Act of 2002 to provide Medicare Part D premium assistance to moderate-income Maryland residents.

The SPDAP will pay up to \$25.00 per month for an enrollees' Medicare Rx prescription drug plan premium, as long as the individual is enrolled in a Medicare approved Medicare Rx prescription drug plan or a Medicare Advantage prescription drug plan

Beginning January 2009, the program will also pay a subsidy of up to \$1,200 to a persons Medicare Part D Plan to reduce costs through the coverage gap or "doughnut hole" costs. To take advantage of the new subsidy, a person must be enrolled in one of the 23 participating plans that has an agreement with SPDAP.

The SPDAP replaces the Maryland Senior Prescription Drug Plan that was administered by CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.

Together RX Access, LLC

PO Box 9426

Wilmington, DE 19809-9944

800-444-4106

www.togetherrxaccess.com

Free national discount card with significant savings on over 300 prescription medications offered by some of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies.

Xubex Pharmaceutical Services

1-866-699-8239

www.xubex.com

Xubex offers online assistance to qualified individuals for generic medications. A ninety-day supply of a medication offered by RxOutreach may be purchased for \$20-30.

Go to the website to apply.

This service is available to:

Patients

Social Workers

Physicians

Patient Advocates

SECTION V – ASSISTANCE WITH COPAYMENTS

Chronic Disease Fund

10880 John W. Elliot Drive Suite 400

Frisco, TX 75034

Toll Free: 877-968-7233

www.cdfund.org

The Chronic Disease Fund provides financial assistance to patients diagnosed with a chronic or life-altering disease.

More than 35 specialty medications and specialty therapeutics that are FDA approved are included. After the patient is approved for the program, the medication is dispensed through selected pharmacies.

Diseases covered:

Ankylosing Spondylitis

Asthma

Breast Cancer

Colorectal Cancer

Growth Hormone Deficiency

Multiple Myeloma

Multiple Sclerosis

Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS)

Non-small Cell Lung Cancer

Psoriasis

Psoriatic Arthritis

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Financial Assistance - Patients who cannot afford [*the co-pay*](#) associated with their insurance plans, and who meet program guidelines, can have their co-pays paid for by the Fund.

No chronic disease sufferer should be without access to the medications they need. In addition to receiving financial assistance, all patients will be provided access to our therapy management portal; DiseaseTrak.com.

HealthWell Foundation

P.O. Box 4133
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
800-675-8416

www.healthwellfoundation.org

The HealthWell Foundation is a charitable organization that helps individuals afford prescription medications they are taking for a specific illness.

The web site lists all available medications and diseases.

The Foundation provides financial assistance to eligible patients to cover certain out-of-pocket healthcare costs for over 25 diseases.

Prescription drug coinsurance, co-payments and deductibles

Health insurance premiums

Other selected out-of-pocket health care costs

List of Disease:

Acute Porphyrias

Age-Related Macular Degeneration

Anemia associated with Chronic Renal Insufficiency/Chronic Renal Failure

Ankylosing Spondylitis

Asthma, Moderate to Severe

Breast Cancer

Carcinoid Tumors and Symptoms Related to Carcinoid Tumors

Chemotherapy Induced Anemia/Chemotherapy Induced Neutropenia

Colorectal Carcinoma

Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma

Head and Neck Cancer

Hodgkin's Disease

Immunosuppressive Treatment for Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

Iron Overload as a Result of Blood transfusions

Multiple Myeloma

Myelodysplastic syndromes

Non-Hodgkins's Lymphoma

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Psoriasis

Psoriatic Arthritis

Secondary Hyperparathyroidism

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Wilms' Tumor

Patient Advocate Foundation

700 Thimble Shoals Blvd
Suite 200
Newport News, VA 23606
Phone: (800) 532-5274

help@patientadvocate.org

Patient Advocate Foundation's Co-Pay Relief (CPR) Program is a national non-profit program that provides direct co-payment assistance for pharmaceutical products to insured Americans who financially and medically qualify.

Beginning on January 1, 2006 CPR will begin welcoming new Medicare Part D beneficiaries who require assistance with their pharmaceutical co-payments. The Program offers personal service to all patients through the use of CPR call counselors; personally guiding patients through the simple enrollment process.

SECTION VI – GENERAL INFORMATION

Needy Meds

www.needymeds.com

This site is like the yellow pages. It does not supply medications or financial assistance but it provides information so you can find programs that will help you.

Drug Store . Com

www.drugstore.com

A website that can help a provider get ballpark pricing for medications so that the prescriber can get some idea of the financial burden imposed by a specific prescription without having to call a pharmacy.

www.medmatrix.org

Comprehensive website for consumers with extensive prescription medication information and resources.

www.QDrug.com

This website features toll free numbers with disease specific health and prescription assistance information.

SECTION VII - CONSUMER SELF-HELP/ADVOCACY

Maryland Health Care Commission

4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland
410-764-3460

<http://mhcc.maryland.gov/>

The commission provides consumers with prescription information on:

Prescription Drug Prices

Compare Mail Order Prices

Get information on Medicare Part D

Options on getting help from the State

Maryland Insurance Administration

525 St Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202-2272
410-468-2000
800-492-6116
800-735-2258 (TTD)

www.mdinsurance.state.md.us

Contact the Maryland Insurance Administration for resources on how to select a health/prescription insurance company or program that is appropriate for your needs.

Office of Attorney General, State of Maryland

200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-576-6300
888-743-0023
410-576-6372 (TDD)

<http://www.oag.state.md.us/Drugprices/index.htm>

Interactive prescription drug price finder for the most common prescribed medications in Maryland. Comparative prescription prices are available from pharmacies in Frederick County.

SECTION VIII – TAX CREDIT

Internal Revenue Service

Federal Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC)

800-829-1040

800-829-4059 TDD

<http://www.irs.gov/>

A federal income tax credit is available to certain trade dislocated workers and early retirees and their dependents.

The credit helps qualified persons buy health insurance with prescription benefits.

You can either claim the tax credit at the end of the year on your return or

You can elect to have the money paid directly to the selected health plan each month by the IRS.

Contact the IRS for more information.